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Page: 1

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PAGE 01 BUENOS 09539 291332Z
ACTION ARA-15

INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00
PA-02 ICA-15 SP-02 SY-05 MCT-02 /052 W
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R 211707Z NOV 79 ZDK
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3238

UNCLAS BUENOS AIRES 9539

E.O. 12065: N/A
TAGS: ASEC, PINS, AR
SUBJECT: ASSAULT ON EMBASSY STAFF

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS
Margaret P. Grafeld, Director
(X) Release () Excise () Deny
Exemption(s): _____
Declassify: () In Part () In Full
() Classify as _____ () Extend as _____ () Downgrade to _____
Date _____ Declassify on _____ Reason _____

REF: BA-8969

1. THE BUENOS AIRES HERALD (ENGLISH) AND LA RAZON
(SPANISH) NEWSPAPERS CARRIED ARTICLES ON THE ASSAULT
OF EMBASSY EMPLOYEES. THE FOLLOWING ACCOUNT APPEARED IN THE
HERALD ON NOV 20.

2. "IT WAS REVEALED THAT THREE MEN, ALLEGEDLY WORKING
FOR THE INTELLIGENCE SERVICE OF THE AIR FORCE, WHO BEAT
UP A CIVILIAN EMPLOYEE OF THE U.S. EMBASSY, ARE BEING
HELD IN CUSTODY TO FACE TRIAL. THE INCIDENT CAME TO LIGHT
WHEN U.S. AMBASSADOR RAUL CASTRO PRESENTED A PROTEST NOTE TO
THE FOREIGN MINISTRY ON OCT 31. FEDERAL JUDGE NORBERTO GILETTA
HAD ORDERED THAT THE MEN BE HELD IN PREVENTIVE (SIC) CUSTODY.
ALL THREE MEN HAVE NOW BEEN CHARGED WITH CAUSING BODILY HARM
UNDER ARTICLE 92 OF THE PENAL CODE. MR. AQUINO (ONE OF THE
THREE MEN BEING HELD) IS CHARGED WITH USING A GUN IN A
THREATENING MANNER. THE JUDGE STATED THAT THE
EVIDENCE WEIGHED AGAINST THE THREE MEN'S PROTESTATIONS
OF INNOCENCE AND ORDERED THEM HELD IN PREVENTIVE
CUSTODY AS WELL AS PLACING AN EMBARGO OF THREE MILLION
PESOS (APPROX. U.S. DOLS 2,000) ON THEIR PROPERTY.
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PAGE 02 BUENOS 09539 291332Z

ALL THREE MEN HAVE APPEALED THE JUDGE'S DECISION.
CASTRO

Current Class: UNCLASSIFIED

Page: 1

Current Class: UNCLASSIFIED
Current Handling: n/a
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Page: 2
Channel: n/a

NOTE BY OC/T: TELEGRAM DELAYED IN TRANSMISSION.

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Current Class: UNCLASSIFIED

Page: 2